



SMOG CHECK ADVISORY

Official Publication of the California Dept. of Consumer Affairs/Bureau of Automotive Repair SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2000

BAR EXTENDS WELCOME MAT TO THE WORLD

The way the Bureau of Automotive Repair attracts visitors from the farthest reaches of the globe, you'd think it ran some sort of luxury resort.

It doesn't.

The visitors that flock to the Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) headquarters each year from around the world do so because they want what we have — a top-notch program that protects consumers, cleans the air and protects the environment.



Gary Hunter (middle) and Joe Pedrosa (right) shared BAR program tips with Mexican officials.



The Mexican delegates showed great interest in BAR's unique engineering lab.

"They want specifics from our Smog Check Program or they want to set up their own programs in their own countries," said Peggy Jones, who helps coordinate the presentations and tours. "We are the leader in these areas. I'm very proud of our program and believe in it enough to want to show it off to representatives from other states and other countries."

The most recent visitors, from Mexico, toured the BAR facilities at the end of July. The five Mexican government officials, concerned about reducing air pollution in their homeland, spent the entire day absorbed in all aspects of BAR's Smog Check Program.

"*Bienvenidos*, Welcome," said BAR Chief Doug Laue. "We run the largest vehicle inspection program in the world. Today, you will have the opportunity to learn about how we operate our smog inspection program. Hopefully this information will be useful in setting up your program in Mexico."

BAR's Joe Pedrosa led the Mexican delegation on a tour of BAR's engineering lab.

"Our goal here is to verify that the analyzers perform the Smog Check tests correctly," he said. "Then, we make sure that the software is

Welcome Mat (continued page 3)

IN THIS ISSUE...

BAR Extends Welcome Mat to the World	1
SNAPSHOT	2
The Bottom Line	3
Attention BAR-97 Equipped Stations, Smog Check Technicians & Managers	5
Smog Check Station Citations	6
Vehicle Safety Defects...Who Ya Gonna Call? ..	6
Disciplinary Actions	7
Little Scoops	8



Below are the Smog Check testing and repair statistics for the months of June and July 2000. As always, the "Tests Conducted" data represents **all** Acceleration Simulation Mode (ASM) and Two-Speed Idle (TSI) tests performed on vehicles by Smog Check stations statewide, with the number of certificates that resulted from these tests shown under "Certificates Issued." The remaining data represent only ASM and TSI **first** (initial) tests performed on vehicles. The differences between Enhanced and Basic/Change of Ownership (COO) Areas of the state are also shown.

JUNE		JULY	JUNE		JULY
PROGRAM VOLUME			FAILURE BY STATION TYPE		
Tests Conducted*	1,030,964	1,007,605	Test & Repair	46,248 (9.0%)	45,020 (9.1%)
Vehicles Tested	889,897	873,004	– Enhanced	31,964 (10.5%)	30,620 (10.5%)
– Enhanced	568,341	558,928	– Basic/COO	14,443 (7.0%)	14,371 (7.2%)
– Basic/COO	321,306	313,846	GSGR	18,981 (10.0%)	19,198 (10.26%)
Vehicles Failed	101,153 (11.3%)	101,027 (11.57%)	– Enhanced	13,437 (10.7%)	13,409 (10.8%)
– Enhanced	77,213 (13.5%)	76,953 (13.76%)	– Basic/COO	5,542 (8.8%)	5,799 (9.0%)
– Basic/COO	24,007 (7.4%)	24,035 (7.65%)	GPC	5,774 (8.5%)	5,534 (8.5%)
Vehicles Repaired			– Enhanced	2,372 (12.7%)	2,191 (12.4%)
– Enhanced	64,933	60,991	– Basic/COO	3,402 (6.9%)	3,343 (7.0%)
– Basic/COO	42,394	39,475	Test-Only	29,405 (24.36%)	30,749 (24.11%)
Certificates Issued	864,677	845,325	– Enhanced	28,989 (24.5%)	30,379 (24.2%)
			– Basic/COO	406 (17.5%)	370 (16.8%)
TYPE OF FAILURE			<i>By Vehicle Type</i>		
Tailpipe	73,484 (8.2%)	72,493 (8.3%)	High Emitter Profile (HEP)	18,304 (34.5%)	19,568 (33.7%)
– Enhanced	57,878 (10.2%)	56,836 (10.2%)	Random 2%	1,649 (25.3%)	1,640 (023%)
– Basic/COO	15,156 (4.7%)	15,272 (4.8%)	Volunteers	9,442 (15.4%)	9,541 (15.2%)
Gross Polluters**	33,464 (3.7%)	34,840 (3.9%)			
– Enhanced	26,252 (4.6%)	27,728 (4.9%)	AVERAGE REPORTED REPAIR COSTS		
– Basic/COO	7,018 (2.19%)	6,944 (2.2%)	Average Cost (statewide)	\$124	\$123
Visual	20,742 (2.3%)	21,082 (2.4%)	Test & Repair Stations	\$103	\$102
– Enhanced	17,228 (3.0%)	17,041 (3.0%)	GSGR Stations	\$117	\$112
– Basic/COO	3,514 (1.0%)	3,555 (1.1%)	GPC Stations	\$171	\$169
Functional	51,676 (5.8%)	52,289 (5.9%)	Repair Assisted Vehicles***	\$395.46	\$349
– Enhanced	39,232 (6.9%)	39,678 (7.1%)	Enhanced Areas	\$127	\$126
– Basic/COO	12,444 (3.8%)	12,313 (3.9%)	Basic/COO Areas	\$121	\$119
			CONSUMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM		
			Vehicles Receiving Repair Assistance	272	101
			Vehicles Retired	178	213
			Repair Cost Waivers Issued	92	80
			Economic Hardship Extensions Issued	119	87

* Includes multiple tests on same vehicle

** Subset of tailpipe failures

*** Includes consumer co-pay

WELCOME MAT

(continued from page 1)

sophisticated enough so that it will help prevent an operator from compromising the integrity of the test.”

Delegations or representatives from as far away as Australia, China, India, Guam, Hungary, Nepal, Japan, Brazil and Thailand have visited or will soon be visiting BAR to learn more about its various operations and services. In addition, representatives from other states, various colleges and universities, have also checked in to see the BAR program in person.

Renee L. Shadel, an investigator with the Washington Office of the Attorney General, recently spent a couple of days touring BAR facilities and gathering information about BAR's enforcement actions against auto repair shops.

“Thanks again for your guidance and for sharing information regarding your very impressive program,” Shadel said in a letter to BAR Deputy Chief Richard Mundy. “The citizens of California are fortunate to have such an effective program working on their behalf.”

The comprehensive BAR presentations include smog check, auto repair, enforcement, licensing and consumer complaint resolution.

All guests receive an overview of BAR operations, consumer protection methods, vehicle emission control and monitoring, and smog check testing and documentation. Many of the visitors also tour smog check stations and automobile repair shops.

“It's amazing how many foreign delegates look to us for information,” Jones said. “It's a privilege to be a part of this program and participate in the tours.”



As with this delegation of Mexican officials, BAR has welcomed visitors from all over the world.



Peggy Jones coordinates all foreign delegation visits for BAR.

As of August 1, 2000

TECHNICIAN DATA

83	Cut score on the smog exam.
117	Number of scored items on exam.
8,570	Technicians completing BAR-97 eight-hour Transition Training.
9,159	Advanced (EA) technicians licensed.
4,433	Basic (EB) technicians licensed.

STATION DATA

4,867	Test & Repair stations statewide.
1,876	Gold Shield Guaranteed Repair (GSGR) stations statewide.
329	Gross Polluter Certification (GPC) stations statewide.
478	Test-Only stations statewide.
601	Test-Only lanes statewide.

CONSUMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DATA

148	Stations providing repair assistance.
101	Vehicles repaired (since July 1st program changes).
18	Dismantler sites for vehicle retirement.
213	Vehicles retired (since July 1st program changes).

THE BOTTOM LINE

PHASE 2.1 (effective 9/13/2000)
Acceleration Simulation Mode
Emission Standards and Gross Polluter Standards

ESC MODEL YEAR GROUP	VEHICLE TYPE (by GVWR)		PASS/FAIL EMISSION STANDARD						GROSS POLLUTER STANDARD					
	PASSENGER <=6000	TRUCK includes motorhome, minivan, sport utility <=6000 6001 to 8500	ASM 5015			ASM 2525			ASM 5015			ASM 2525		
			HC	CO	NO	HC	CO	NO	HC	CO	NO	HC	CO	NO
1 1966 - 1967	X	X	A 241.7	2.72	1721.5	191.7	2.52	1581.5	441.7	4.42	3259.3	391.7	4.22	3059.3
			B 554971.3	6165.96	1192592.6	554971.3	6165.96	1192592.6	554971.3	6165.96	1703703.7	554971.3	6165.96	1703703.7
2 1968 - 1970	X	X	A 238.9	2.62	1581.5	188.9	2.42	1441.5	438.9	4.32	3059.3	388.9	4.12	2859.3
			B 494793.7	5480.85	1192592.6	494793.7	5480.85	1192592.6	494793.7	5480.85	1703703.7	494793.7	5480.85	1703703.7
3 1971 - 1974	X	X	A 235.4	2.56	1301.5	185.4	2.36	1161.5	435.4	4.26	2659.3	385.4	4.06	2459.3
			B 436041.7	4453.19	1192592.6	436041.7	4453.19	1192592.6	436041.7	4453.19	1703703.7	436041.7	4453.19	1703703.7
4 1975 - 1980	X		A 140.3	0.91	1016.3	90.3	0.71	876.3	315.3	2.51	2051.9	265.3	2.31	1851.9
			B 273316.7	1362.96	1043518.5	273316.7	1362.96	1043518.5	273316.7	1362.96	1490740.7	273316.7	1362.96	1490740.7
5 1981 - 1983	X		A 103.1	0.64	941.1	42.4	0.44	801.1	253.1	2.14	1844.4	192.4	1.94	1644.4
			B 234259.3	1064.81	894444.5	212963.0	1064.81	894444.5	234259.3	1064.81	1277777.8	212963.0	1064.81	1277777.8
6 1984 - 1986	X		A 92.4	0.52	871.1	42.4	0.32	731.1	242.4	2.02	1744.4	192.4	1.82	1544.4
			B 212963.0	979.63	894444.5	212963.0	979.63	894444.5	212963.0	979.63	1277777.8	212963.0	979.63	1277777.8
7 1987 - 1992	X		A 81.7	0.48	860.7	31.7	0.32	720.7	231.7	1.98	1729.6	181.7	1.82	1529.6
			B 191666.7	851.85	596296.3	191666.7	851.85	596296.3	191666.7	851.85	851851.9	191666.7	851.85	851851.9
8 93 +	X		A 84.3	0.29	1133.4	34.3	0.23	953.4	234.3	1.79	1759.3	184.3	1.73	1559.3
			B 128501.9	724.07	498333.3	128501.9	851.85	498333.3	128501.9	724.07	553703.7	128501.9	851.85	553703.7
9 1975 - 1978		X	A 155.0	1.08	1320.9	105.0	0.88	1180.9	330.0	2.58	2487.0	280.0	2.38	2287.0
			B 225000.0	2025.00	745370.4	225000.0	2025.00	745370.4	225000.0	2025.00	1064814.8	225000.0	2025.00	1064814.8
10 1979 - 1983		X	A 145.0	0.88	1315.7	80.0	0.68	1175.7	320.0	2.38	2479.6	255.0	2.18	2279.6
			B 225000.0	2025.00	596296.3	150000.0	2025.00	596296.3	225000.0	2025.00	851851.9	150000.0	2025.00	851851.9
11 1984 - 1987		X	A 130.0	0.41	945.0	80.0	0.50	840.0	280.0	1.71	1850.0	230.0	1.80	1700.0
			B 150000.0	1725.00	525000.0	150000.0	2250.00	1050000.0	150000.0	1725.00	750000.0	150000.0	2250.00	1500000.0
12 1988 - 1992		X	A 120.0	0.27	1100.0	70.0	0.43	900.0	270.0	1.57	1600.0	220.0	1.73	1400.0
			B 150000.0	1725.00	750000.0	150000.0	1875.00	750000.0	150000.0	1725.00	750000.0	150000.0	1875.00	750000.0
13 93 +		X	A 97.5	0.30	765.0	47.5	0.40	810.0	247.5	1.60	1350.0	197.5	1.70	1400.0
			B 112500.0	1350.00	675000.0	112500.0	1500.00	675000.0	112500.0	1350.00	750000.0	112500.0	1500.00	750000.0
14 93 +		X	A 150.0	0.30	1125.0	100.0	0.70	945.0	300.0	1.60	1750.0	250.0	2.00	1550.0
			B 150000.0	1350.00	675000.0	150000.0	1500.00	675000.0	150000.0	1350.00	750000.0	150000.0	1500.00	750000.0
15 1966 - 1969		X	A 203.3	3.07	1878.3	153.3	2.87	1738.3	453.3	5.57	3483.3	403.3	5.37	3283.3
			B 583333.3	4666.67	1633333.3	583333.3	4666.67	1633333.3	583333.3	4666.67	2333333.3	583333.3	4666.67	2333333.3
16 1970 - 1973		X	A 188.3	2.98	1773.3	138.3	2.78	1633.3	438.3	5.48	3333.3	388.3	5.28	3133.3
			B 583333.3	4083.33	1633333.3	583333.3	4083.33	1633333.3	583333.3	4083.33	2333333.3	583333.3	4083.33	2333333.3
17 1974 - 1978		X	A 173.3	2.90	1703.3	123.3	2.70	1563.3	423.3	5.40	3233.3	373.3	5.20	3033.3
			B 583333.3	3500.00	1633333.3	583333.3	3500.00	1633333.3	583333.3	3500.00	2333333.3	583333.3	3500.00	2333333.3

Pass/Fail Emission Standards = A + B / VTW

Legend: ESC - Emissions Standard Category VTW - Vehicle test weight. GVWR - Manufacture's Gross Vehicle Weight Rating

Attention BAR-97 Equipped Stations, Smog Check Technicians & Managers!

As authorized by regulation, allowable oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emission cutpoints were tightened on September 13, 2000. Your BAR-97 test analyzer system automatically switched to the new cutpoints on that date.

Under the federal Clean Air Act, California's Smog Check State Imple-

mentation Plan (SIP) calls for BAR to reduce cutpoint levels for NOx. NOx is one of the pollutants responsible for a number of serious health-related air quality issues in California.

Below is the most recent cutpoint table. It can also be accessed via BAR's Web site (www.smogcheck.ca.gov).

The new NOx level requirements will increase the number of vehicles needing repairs.

Test & Repair stations with a BAR-97 system will be responsible for repairs affecting NOx. Any vehicle tested on or after September 13, 2000 is required to pass the new NOx cutpoints.



California Smog Check Average Emission Concentration Values for Passing Vehicles -- ASM

ESC	MODEL YEAR GROUP	VEHICLE TYPE (by GVWR)			AVERAGE EMISSIONS FOR PASSING VEHICLES					
		PASSENGER <=6000	TRUCK includes motorhome, minivan, sport utility		ASM 5015			ASM 2525		
			<=6000	6001 to 8500	HC	CO	NO	HC	CO	NO
1	1966 - 1967	X	X		166	1.39	814	172	1.50	958
2	1968 - 1970	X	X		149	1.22	1003	137	1.25	908
3	1971 - 1974	X	X		106	0.87	787	90	0.82	820
4	1975 - 1980	X			57	0.25	570	45	0.19	648
5	1981 - 1983	X			52	0.20	475	32	0.14	499
6	1984 - 1986	X			43	0.18	394	24	0.13	397
7	1987 - 1992	X			30	0.14	206	12	0.07	194
8	93 +	X			12	0.05	74	5	0.02	78
9	1975 - 1978		X		67	0.21	482	40	0.21	569
10	1979 - 1983		X	X	53	0.28	442	40	0.23	563
11	1984 - 1987		X	X	52	0.24	381	31	0.17	387
12	1988 - 1992		X	X	38	0.15	219	18	0.09	193
13	93 +		X		14	0.05	107	5	0.03	106
14	93 +			X	24	0.08	104	8	0.03	128
15	1966 - 1969			X	133	1.51	544	120	1.53	1565
16	1970 - 1973			X	109	0.97	1009	89	1.10	992
17	1974 - 1978			X	126	0.91	858	111	0.90	1068

Legend:

ESC - Emissions Standard Category
GVWR - Manufacturer's Gross Vehicle Weight Rating
HC, NO in ppm
CO in percent

SMOG CHECK STATION CITATIONS

FACILITY NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP	LEVEL	ARD NUMBER	CITATION NUMBER	ASSESS AMOUNT	ASSESS DATE	DATE MAILED
Budget Smog	1205 N. Melrose Dr., #G	Vista	92083	1	AH155464	C-99-246	\$250	08/03/00	01/20/99
TVS Complete Auto Care	28822 Front St. #107	Temecula	92590	3	AK169501	C-99-392	\$150	08/31/00	04/08/99
United Smog Agency	8232 Garden Grove Blvd.	Garden Gr	92844	1	AK201959	C-99-469	\$250	08/03/00	05/17/99
Purrfect Auto Service #99	808 N.Santa Fe Ave.	Vista	92083	1	AC198660	C-00-314	\$250	08/17/00	06/20/00
Ralphs Chevron Service	313 W.Orangethorpe Ave.	Placentia	92870	2	AE078754	C-00-316	\$750	08/08/00	06/26/00
Smog Pros	301 S. Euclid Ave.	Anaheim	92802	1	AE132369	C-00-318	\$250	08/14/00	06/26/00
Phil AM Auto Repair	8448 Miracrest Place #F	San Diego	92121	1	AJ206992	C-00-321	\$250	08/15/00	06/29/00
M & G Automotive	3524 West Ball Road	Anaheim	92804	2	AJ155948	C-00-329	\$750	08/14/00	06/30/00
Tony's Mobile Service	1199 S. Beach Blvd.	La Habra	90631	2	AK149684	C-01-004	\$750	08/01/00	07/06/00
Jarretts Mobile	17472 Beach Blvd.	Huntington	92647	2	AB138043	C-01-008	\$750	08/08/00	07/06/00
Henrys Automotive	310 W.Foothill Blvd.	Pomona	91767	1	AJ134715	C-01-010	\$750	08/31/00	07/06/00
Montgomery Ward #1959	7777 Edinger Ave.	Huntington	92647	2	AN022533	C-01-012	\$750	08/22/00	07/06/00
Russell W. Conkle 76 Service	12071 Seal Beach Blvd.	Seal Beach	90740	3	AA001473	C-01-016	\$150	08/11/00	07/12/00
Orange County Smog	511 S. Euclid St.	Fullerton	92832	1	AH206246	C-01-027	\$750	08/10/00	07/24/00
Auto Chek Centers Inc.	2340 E. Chapman Ave.	Fullerton	92631	1	AH141394	C-01-036	\$250	08/30/00	08/04/00

VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECTS ...Who Ya Gonna Call?

The Ford/Firestone tire recall is a timely reminder of the importance of notifying the Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) about safety-related defects. Shop owners or consumers who believe they discovered deficiencies are urged to call the NHTSA's hotline at "DASH-2-DOT" (888-327-4236).

The hotline specializes in gathering information about safety problems in motor vehicles and equipment. In operation since 1975, the DOT Auto Safety Hotline is the Agency's single point of contact, where information can be obtained not only on vehicle safety defects, but also on child safety seats, air bags, importation, certification, and motor vehicle safety.

The NHTSA and BAR recently teamed up to assist consumers with auto safety and repair concerns. A jointly-developed consumer flyer contains informa-

tion on both agencies, and how to report automobile defects, as well as referrals to other agencies that may assist with automobile-related concerns.

For a free copy of the flyer, write to the California Department of Consumer Affairs, 401 S Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95814-6200. To order posters, flyers and other complimentary literature, visit NHTSA's web site at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline.

FIRESTONE TIRE TIPS

Consumer help is now just one mouse click away for California motorists wanting more information on the Ford/Bridgestone/Firestone tire recall. New details are emerging almost daily in news stories from across the country and around the world, some of them involving deaths and lawsuits right here in California. So the California Department of Consumer Affairs is stepping in to help consumers with *The Top Twelve*

Tire Tips for the Ford/Firestone Recall on its web site.

"The good news for California is that we are one of the first states to get replacement tires under the recall plan," says Consumer Affairs Director Kathleen Hamilton.

Besides specific information on the tire recall, the Web site includes reminders that Californians are protected under the California Automotive Repair Act, even for a no-cost recall job. If a shop tries to sell any products or services in addition to tire replacement, consumers are entitled to a written estimate and to authorize the repairs before the work begins. Consumers are also entitled to a written invoice when the repairs are completed detailing the parts and services the vehicle has received.

Visit the Department's Web site at www.dca.ca.gov to visit the Ford/Firestone Recall information.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS



*Editor's Note:
This issue contains
the actions taken
during July 2000.*

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

STEVE'S AUTO

—Oakland

Steven Thai – Concord

Order: Smog Check Station License revoked. Basic Area Technician License revoked. Automotive Repair Dealer Registration revoked, stayed and placed on three years' probation. Respondent's ARD suspended for 20 days. Respondent's authorized representative must report in person to BAR. Respondent shall not apply for a Smog Check Station License prior to one year after the date he is granted an Automotive Repair Dealer Registration. Further ordered to pay BAR costs of \$5,400. (07/20/00)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

LUCERNE VALLEY GARAGE

—Lucerne Valley

Martine Jezquel, owner

Order: ARD Registration and Smog Check License, revoked and stayed and placed on three years' probation. Further ordered to pay BAR \$3,000 for cost of investigation. Smog Check license suspended for 15 days and must report in person to BAR. (07/20/00)

JAHED M. ELABED

—Riverside

Advanced Emission Specialist Technician revoked, stayed and placed on two years' probation. Respondent's license suspended for 30 consecutive days. Further ordered to attend and successfully complete a BAR certified training course in diagnosis and repair of emission systems failure and engine performance. (07/17/00)

VAGLE'S UNIONTOWN TIRE

—Arcata

Sandra Vagle, partner

Earl Joseph Vagle, partner

Order: ARD Registration and Smog Check Station License revoked, stayed and placed on three years' probation. Smog Check Station License suspended for 30 days. Further ordered to reimburse BAR \$6,000 for costs of its investigation. Also ordered to report in person to BAR. Within 60 days after

the decision, Earl Joseph Vagle shall reapply for an ARD license and may apply for a Smog Check Station License to accurately reflect the current registration status of business. All terms and conditions of probation shall be transferred to any new registration that is issued to Earl Joseph Vagle for the remaining term of probation. (07/05/00)

PALM SPRINGS TIRE & AUTO CENTER, INC. D.b.a. ELITE TIRE & AUTOMOTIVE CENTER

—Cathedral City

Darren Downing, president

Order: ARD registration and Smog Check Station license revoked, stayed and placed on three years' probation. Smog Check License shall be suspended for 90 days. Further ordered to pay BAR \$4,806.60 for costs of its investigation. Must also report to the local BAR office. (07/05/00)

FREEWAY IMPORTS

—Hawthorne

Bill I. Joudi, owner

ARD registration permanently invalidated. Smog Check Station License revoked. Respondent ordered to pay \$8,078.85 to BAR for costs of investigation and enforcement. (07/20/00)

GABRIEL TERRIQUEZ

—San Ysidro

Advanced Emission Specialist Technician License revoked. (07/12/00)



SMOG CHECK ADVISORY

State of California

Gray Davis, Governor

California Department of Consumer Affairs

Kathleen Hamilton, Director

Bureau of Automotive Repair

Douglas E. Laue, Chief
10240 Systems Parkway
Sacramento, CA 95827

BAR FIELD OFFICE PHONE NUMBERS

Bakersfield (661) 833-6304
Canoga Park (818) 596-4400
Culver City (310) 410-0024
Fresno (559) 445-5015
Fullerton (714) 680-7851
Oceanside (760) 439-0942
Richmond (510) 243-9410
Riverside (909) 782-4250
Sacramento (916) 255-4200
San Jose (408) 277-1860
South El Monte ... (626) 575-6934

DCA Cashiering (916) 322-7002
BAR Licensing ... (916) 255-3145
ET Help Desk (916) 255-4476
MCI (800) 731-SMOG
(Then press 5 for technical support)

Consumer Assistance and
Referee Center (800) 622-7733

DCA HOTLINE: (800) 952-5210

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Oakland, CA
Permit No. 2101

LITTLE SCOOPS

UPDATE TRAINING REQUIRED FOR ALL SMOG TECHNICIANS

Advanced (EA) and (EB) Basic technicians will be required to complete the new On-Board Diagnostics II (OBD II) Update Training Course for initial or renewal licensure. Proof of completing the course will be required for EA and EB **initial** license applications **post-marked after January 31, 2001**. The course will be required for **renewal** of EA and EB licenses **expiring after January 31, 2001**, no matter when the technician applies for renewal. See the August Advisory for further information.

NEWLY DEVELOPED SMOG CHECK TECHNICIAN LICENSING EXAMS SET FOR FEBRUARY 2001

During the last year, BAR developed new examination plans for Advanced (EA) and Basic (EB) Smog Check Technicians. Licensees, serving as subject matter experts, wrote and evaluated new examination questions.

The major difference is that the new Advanced and Basic examinations will be different, and focus on the work done by each group. The EB exam will concentrate on Basic Area program requirements, inspections, and repairs. The EA exam will concentrate on Enhanced Area program requirements, inspections, and repairs, including NOx diagnosis and repair.

Administration of the new exams will begin on February 1, 2001. At that time, a Basic technician wishing to become an Advanced technician will be required to take and pass the EA exam.

Renewal packets now include the new exam plans, allowing ample time to study before the exams change in February. Technicians that apply and pass the exams before the end of January will not see the new exams. However, if a technician fails an exam in January, and re-tests in February, he/she must pass the new exam.

Requests for upgrades from Basic to Advanced technician must be post-marked by December 31, 2000.